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Many depredations have been committed by the American privateers in the channel, almost on our very shores, and at the mouths of our harbours. Insurance between Great Britain and Ireland has in consequence been suddenly raised from 15s. 9d. to 4 and 5 guineas per cent.

The merchants of Liverpool, Glasgow and Bristol, have met, and complained loudly, not of the impolicy of the war, as justice requires, but against the misconduct of the Admiralty, in not affording sufficient protection. If governments will madly rush on war, they should prepare themselves for the consequences by providing ample protection, and if the people encourage them in this hurtful propensity and suffer by the war, they have themselves to blame, as partaking too largely of the war-loving spirit.

Exchange kept generally through this month, at about $4\frac{3}{4}$ to 5 per cent.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR OCTOBER, 1814.

On the 3d, the Moon rises with the Hyades, having passed the first fourth of the Bull at thirty-three minutes past six in the evening, and the second fourth at seven, and she passes the fifth, or Bull's eye, at seventeen minutes past nine. During the night, therefore, we shall see her accompanied by Aldebaran above her, which star she passes before Sun-rise.

On the 5th, the Moon rises under the seventh and twelfth of the Twins, as she passed the twelfth at nine minutes past seven this evening, and as she rises in the heavens is seen to direct her course to the fourth of this constellation.

On the 9th, the Moon rises in the morning below the small stars in the head of the Lion, and before Sun-rise the eye is directed from her to the first of the Lion, and thence to the three planets, Jupiter, Venus, and Mars, who are enlivening by their lustre the lower regions of the sky near the east.

On the 11th, about half an hour before Sun-rise, the Moon, Jupiter, Venus, and Mars, in the order mentioned, are seen in the lower region of the sky near east by south, the Moon being the highest, and Mars near the horizon.

On the 13th is new Moon, at fifty-one minutes past ten in the morning.

On the 20th, the Moon is on the meridian at forty-seven minutes past five in the evening, having passed the ecliptic in her descending node between eleven and twelve before noon. She is now, when on the meridian, between the small stars in the head of the Archer and Saturn, the former to the west, the latter to the east of her, but she is nearest to the planet, under whom she will pass before her next appearance.

On the 23d, she passes the meridian at eleven minutes past eight, the small stars in the tail of the Goat being now to the west of her; and above her, at some distance, the first of the Water-bearer; to the east of which we notice the four small stars in triangle in the urn.

On the 28th, she rises under the three first stars of the Ram, being soon followed by the first sixteenth of the Whale, and she passes the second sixteenth at six minutes past midnight; and ten minutes after is full Moon.

On the 30th, the Moon rises under the Pleiades, and is soon followed by the Hyades, as when she is near the meridian one of them suffers an occultation. This takes place at a quarter past one in the morning of the 31st, when the first fourth of the Bull is covered by the Moon's eastern limb, the star being four minutes and a half south of the centre. At six minutes past two she passes the second fourth, and at twenty minutes and three quarters past two the first fourth emerges from her eastern limb, the star being then nearly nine minutes and a quarter south of the centre. At twenty minutes past four she passes the fifth of the Bull, or one of his eyes, Aldebaran being the other; and her passage between these stars, but nearest to the former, with the occultation, makes this an interesting evening to the astronomer. In the evening, she rises at the same time as the Hyades, being under and near to the tenth of the Bull, as she passed this star at thirteen

minutes past six. She will be seen to direct her course above the tip of the southern horn to the seventh and twelfth of the Twins.

Mercury is an evening star, too near the Sun to be visible at first, and though his distance from it increases, yet the unfavourableness of his position, added to an increasing southern latitude, leaves to all but the very skilful astronomer, little chance of discovering him. On the last of the month, he is not five degrees above the horizon at Sun-set, being then in the south-west. The Moon passes him on the 14th.

Venus is a morning star, nearly twenty degrees above the horizon at Sun-rise; and this height is daily diminishing. Her passage by Jupiter will distinguish the former part of the month, as she passes him on the 8th, being then twenty-four minutes north of him, they are then both near to and under the second of the Virgin; and Mars below them, at a short distance, will increase the interest of the scene. Venus moves rapidly from Jupiter, but does not pass Mars till the 22d. The contrast of the splendours of these three planets, in their daily changes of position, will be highly gratifying to the early traveller. At the end of the month, Mars, the first of the Virgin, and Venus, form a groupe near the horizon, which may be distinguished before Sun-rise, in the lower part of the lower region in east-south-east, Mars being above and Venus below the star, Jupiter being above them all at a considerable distance. Venus passes the seventh of the Virgin on the 14th, and the third on the 18th. The Moon passes her on the 12th.

Mars is a morning star, about nine degrees above the horizon at Sun-rise, on the 1st; but this height is daily increasing. Too near the Sun to be at first noticed, he will, on the 8th, be remarked under Jupiter and Venus, being himself then near to the seventh of the Virgin; and he thence continues with a direct motion, passing the third on the 16th; but he finishes his course at some distance above the first of the Virgin. The latter part of his course will be distinguished by the passage of Venus by him. The Moon passes him on the 12th.

Jupiter is a morning star, about twelve degrees above the horizon at Sun-rise; but this height is daily increasing. His motion is direct through more than six degrees and a quarter from the second of the Virgin, to about a degree from the seventh. Venus is first above him. As she passes him, we observed, on the 8th, and as she is then nearly two hours above the horizon before Sun-rise, such brilliant morning stars so near each other will produce a fine effect in the east. The Moon passes him on the 14th.

Saturn is on the meridian at a quarter past seven on the evening of the 1st, and at eleven minutes past six on the 19th. His motion is direct through nearly a degree in the barren space between the small stars in the head of the Archer and the two first of the Goat, the former of which, when he is on the meridian, are below him on the west, and the latter above, but nearer to him on the east. In such a favourable position, many telescopes will be directed to him to discover the wonders of his ring, as little to be accounted for by those who believe, as those who reject the doctrine of attraction. The Moon passes him on the 20th.

Herschell is not so favourably placed; for, being on the meridian at twenty-one minutes past three in the afternoon of the 1st, and every day earlier, he is at first midway between the meridian and horizon at Sun-set; and, at the end of the month, so near the horizon at this time, that he will not easily be detected after it.

Friend's Evening Amusements.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An essay on the use of Italics, capitals, &c. in composition; A question and answer, from the Giant's Causeway; A morning's excursion, and a poetic sketch by J. M. arrived too late for insertion this month. Several other communications in prose and verse have been received, which are inadmissible.